

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

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JAMES S. REINHARD, M.D. COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Wendy Brown, Policy Analyst

Office of Planning and Development

SUBJECT: Emergency Regulations for Summary Suspension of a License

12 VAC 35-105-115

DATE: February 5, 2007

This is to advise you that the above-referenced emergency regulations became effective on January 3, 2007. These regulations implement Chapter 168 of the 2006 Virginia Acts of Assembly and establish procedures for issuing an order of summary suspension of a license to operate a group home or residential facility for adults when there is an immediate and substantial threat to the health, safety, and welfare of residents.

According to Virginia's Administrative Process Act, emergency regulations may remain effective for a maximum of twelve months. Therefore, the agency has also initiated the process for adopting regulations on a permanent basis by submitting a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for publication in the <u>Virginia Register</u>. This NOIRA requests your comments to assist the agency to develop the permanent regulations.

Please submit your comments in writing no later than February 28, 2007 to Leslie Anderson, Director of the Office of Licensing, by mail at the above address, e-mail leslie.anderson@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or via fax (804) 692-0066. You may obtain a copy of the emergency regulations on the Department's website at www.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by contacting Wendy Brown, via e-mail at wendy.brown@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2252.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this regulatory process.

pc: Leslie Anderson